

Weather Forecast

Cloudy and warmer tonight; rain tomorrow afternoon or night; lowest tonight about 44 degrees. Temperatures today—Highest, 55, at 2 p.m.; lowest, 37, at 4 a.m.
Full report on Page A-2.

Closing New York Markets, Page 16.

87th YEAR. No. 34,580. Entered as second class matter post office, Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1939—THIRTY-EIGHT PAGES. ***

First in Washington—
First in the news coverage that builds public confidence—First in circulation and advertising that reflect public confidence.

(P) Means Associated Press.

THREE CENTS.

'Unjustifiable W. P. A. Politics' Charged in Sheppard Report; Congress Opens, Facing Fights

Senate Committee Urges Remedial Legislation

BACKGROUND—
Election campaigns of 1938 precipitated a barrage of charges that W. P. A. funds and influence were being used to support New Deal favorites. Although vested with jurisdiction only over senatorial contests, Senate Campaign Committee has made intensive investigation of whole question of relief and politics and releases comprehensive report and recommendations today.

By G. GOULD LINCOLN.
A flat charge that "unjustifiable political activity" occurred in connection with the work of the W. P. A. is made in a voluminous report of the Senate Campaign Expenditures Committee, submitted to the Senate today by Chairman Morris Sheppard.

By implication the report reflects seriously upon the administration of the relief organization by Harry L. Hopkins, until recently W. P. A. head and now Secretary of Commerce. No personal attack is made, however, on Mr. Hopkins.

The committee report sharply contradicts reports made by Mr. Hopkins in which the administrator minimized the use of W. P. A. for political purposes, particularly in Kentucky during the primary campaign of Senator Alben B. Barkley. Democratic leader of the Senate, for renomination against Gov. "Happy" Chandler.

No suggestion is contained, however, that Senator Barkley, or any of the other Senators elected in November, be denied seats in the Senate.

Sees Funds Diverted.
In its recommendations, the committee said: "The committee believes that funds appropriated by the Congress for the relief of those in need and distress have been in many instances diverted from these high purposes to political ends."

"The committee condemns this conduct and recommends to the Senate that legislation be prepared to make impossible, so far as legislation can do so, further offenses of this character."

The committee report, dealing as it does with the relief agency of the Federal Government which has expended billions of dollars, may have far-reaching effect on the committee of Congress which are to consider new appropriations for the W. P. A., for which the President may recommend as much as \$875,000,000 to carry on for the remainder of the present fiscal year.

Also the report will be scanned by members of the Senate before they act upon the nomination of Mr. Hopkins to be Secretary of Commerce.

All Concur in Report.
The report is concurred in by all five members of the Special Campaign Expenditures Committee—Senator Sheppard of Texas, chairman; Senators Harrison of Mississippi, Walsh of Massachusetts, O'Mahoney of Wyoming, Democrats, and Senator White of Maine, Republican.

The committee makes 16 recommendations which it deems necessary and advisable to correct existing conditions and to strengthen the present Corrupt Practices Act. Among the recommendations for legislation by the committee are the following:

1. To prohibit contributions for political purposes by any person who is the beneficiary of Federal relief funds or who is engaged in the administration of relief laws.

2. To prohibit any person engaged in administration of Federal relief laws from using his official authority (Continued on Page A-8, Column 1.)

Socialist Leader Faces Berlin Treason Court

By the Associated Press.
BERLIN, Jan. 3.—Ernst Nieckisch, old-time Socialist and anti-Nazi propagandist, was arraigned for trial today by two other persons before Berlin's dread "Volksgerichtshof" (People's Court) which deals with cases of high treason or attempted treason.

Details of charges against the three, the reasons for their trial at this time and their recent antecedents were hidden in the usual secrecy which surrounds the court's proceedings.

The court was conducted behind closed doors and officials declined to give any information.

A terse press release said Nieckisch was concerned with setting up Soviet councils in Munich's troubled past days of 1918-19, when Kurt Eisner, chief of the independent Socialist party, deposed the last Bavarian King, Ludwig III, and erected a Bavarian "free state."

Eisner was shot February 21, 1919, by Count Arco-Valley. Adolf Hitler's subsequent attempt to seize power proved premature in 1923.

Nieckisch was born May 23, 1889, at Trebnitz, Silesia. Besides publishing the revolutionary periodical Widerstand in 1926, he was at one time chief editor of Volksstaat, a Socialist party organ of Dresden.

Bulletin

As he was leaving an apartment house this afternoon at 1114 F street N.E., Charles D. Sager, Jr., 3826 Cathedral avenue N.W., was robbed at the point of a gun of \$800 in rent receipts by a 35-year-old white man, he reported to police. The thief made his escape down an alley.

Dies Report Hits Perkins' 'Laxity' In Deportations

Department Is Blamed For Large Part of Subversive Activity

BACKGROUND—
House last spring authorized inquiry by special committee into subversive activities. After opening day of hearing about Nazis, committee spent virtually entire time on Communist probe, hearing considerable testimony reflecting on New Deal officials and friends. Finally, President Roosevelt publicly criticized investigation.

By the Associated Press.

The Dies Committee today placed responsibility on the Labor Department for "a large part" of subversive espionage, activities and propaganda in the United States.

Reporting to the House on its 3-month inquiry into un-American activities, the committee accused the department of failure to enforce the deportation laws.

"The laxity with which the Department of Labor deals with alien agitators would be unbelievable if we did not have before us the most convincing proof," the voluminous report said.

"Due to limited time and funds, we were unable to go into this question as fully as it deserves, but from the facts which we did obtain, we are convinced that a large part of the espionage and un-American activities and propaganda carried on in this country can be directly traced to the failure of the Labor Department to enforce the deportation laws of the land."

All Sign Report.

The committee was composed of Representative Dies, Democrat, of Texas, chairman, and Representatives Mosier, Democrat, of Ohio, Dempsey, Democrat, of New Mexico, Healey, Democrat, of Massachusetts, Thomas, Republican, of New Jersey and Mason, Republican, of Illinois. All of them signed the report.

The committee expressed a belief that the National Labor Relations Board should be subjected to a thorough investigation to determine to what extent board members and employees "approve the Communist virus" expressed by David J. Sapag, N. L. R. B. economist.

In connection with the so-called Lansing, Mich., "holiday," when a throng assembled at the State capitol, closed stores and marched on the State College, the report criticized "all public officials in connection with the holiday in handling the situation."

Attorney General Frank Murphy then was Governor of Michigan. During its open hearings the committee received testimony that Mr. Murphy blocked enforcement of a court order directing the evacuation of sit-down strikers.

Calling the Lansing occurrences "disgraceful," the committee said "a courageous stand" would have "avoided the loss of millions of dollars to both labor and capital."

Bristle With Condemnation.

The report, bristling with condemnation of Communism, Nazism and Fascism, recommended that the House continue the investigation for two years with an appropriation of at least \$150,000. The investigation should not be continued, it said, unless it has adequate funds. The committee, which expires today, had \$25,000 originally.

"The Congress should also require the appropriate departments to co-operate with the committee," the report said, declaring the Justice and Labor Departments had failed to do so.

The seven-man group, which attracted wide attention as well as criticism from President Roosevelt, Secretary of Interior Ickes and Secretary of Labor Perkins, summarized in testimony received at hearings in Washington, Detroit and New York. It did not make specific legislative proposals to curb un-American activities, but indirectly referred to the necessity for registration of alien (See UN-AMERICAN, Page A-9.)

Storms Beach 13 Ships

ISTANBUL, Jan. 3 (P)—Storms sweeping over the Black Sea drove 13 large cargo ships ashore today and smashed hundreds of smaller craft. Many seamen were missing in addition to 22 drowned yesterday.

Mr. Elliott also recalled briefly that the Tennessee Valley Authority also had challenged the right of the General Accounting Office to go into its affairs.

He told Congress that many (See G. A. O. REPORT, Page A-5.)

Summary of Today's Star

Amusements B-18
Comics B-16-17
Editorials A-10
Financial A-16
Lost and Found B-14

Obituary A-12
Radio A-15
Sports A-13-15
Society B-3
Woman's Page B-10

Foreign.
Cabinet shakeup in Japanese dispute seen possible. Page A-1
Daladier says France will fight for Tunis. Page A-1
China executes many after Wang's peace move. Page A-4

National.
Seventy-sixth Congress convenes; new members sworn in. Page A-1
Dies Committee report blames Labor Department. Page A-1
Quakers report Nazi approval of emigration program. Page A-2
Legislatures will convene in 33 States. Page A-2
160 U. S. battleships moving to war maneuvers. Page A-5
Martin chooses House minority leader by acclamation. Page A-9
Doctors plan conference to arrange defense plans. Page A-9

Washington and Vicinity.
Randolph introduces bill to give D. C. residents vote. Page A-1
Maryland instructor found dead in his garage. Page A-1
S. A. cause of death of Labor Department attorney. Page A-12

Winning Contract. Page B-6
The Holy Terror. Page B-8
Bedtime Story. Page B-16
Cross-Word Puzzle. Page B-16
Letter-Out. Page B-16
Uncle Ray's Corner. Page B-17
Nature's Children. Page B-5



160 U. S. Battleships Moving Out for War Maneuvers

Vessels Will Converge On 3,000-Mile Front To Defend Canal

By the Associated Press.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—Uncle Sam's naval might, numbering 160 ships, began leaving various bases Caribbean-bound today for war maneuvers.

Starting the parade from New York, the new 1,850-ton destroyer Warrington weighed anchor at Brooklyn Navy Yard and headed southward. Before the week is ended, all 160 ships of the fleet, including dreadnaughts, destroyers, cruisers and auxiliaries, will be converging on a front covering more than 3,000 miles with defense of the Panama Canal the objective.

The war maneuvers will last 10 weeks and 60,000 enlisted men and 4,000 officers will participate. New types of naval craft, launched during the past year, will be put to rigid tests under simulated war conditions. Speed, mobility and vulnerability of the new vessels in attack and on the defensive will be studied by naval engineers and battle commanders.

Thoughts on New Ships.

These strategists will have their thoughts focused on some 70 new ships already under construction and several hundred more planned under the administration's re-armament program.

The war games will cover a front from Norfolk, Va., to the Equator and will reach from the Canal to a line approximately 1,000 miles east of the Atlantic coastline and probably as far as the Azores.

The tactical problem is known as "XX" or "20"—the defense of the Canal.

Also leaving the navy yard here today and tomorrow will be the new destroyer Somers and five cruisers. The old type 7,050-ton light cruiser Cincinnati weighs anchor shortly after noon with her sister ship, Te Concord, nosing out into the lower channel 15 minutes later.

Rear Admiral Harold R. Stark will be in command of the cruiser division in the maneuvers, hoisting his flag on the Honolulu. Tinian convoy will make for Hampton Roads, Va., to join other vessels in the Atlantic squadron, which will leave en masse Friday under command of Rear Admiral A. W. Johnson.

Target practice and tactical maneuvers in Cuba's Guantanamo area will be held before this division joins the Pacific fleet at Colon the last week in January.

When the maneuvers are ended, about April 15, 118 of the naval craft will steam to New York to greet the opening of the New York World's Fair.

The fleet will disband about May 22 when the Pacific Squadron steams back through the Panama Canal to reach San Francisco in time to salute its exposition.

The maneuvers will be under command of Admiral Claude C. Bloch, commander in chief of the combined fleet.

Judge Harris Denies Gov. Stark's Charge

By the Associated Press.

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 3.—A flat denial of Gov. Lloyd C. Stark's charges that Judge Harris had been overheard by a heart attack, Dr. W. E. Mallin of Riverside.

Dr. Mallin and Judge Lutz expressed the belief that Mr. Criswell had been overheard by a heart attack as he walked from his car and fell against a basement door, striking his head.

The body was discovered by the professor's wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Criswell, who went to the garage when she heard the motor running. She found her husband slumped against the door. She called the county police and Officer Richard A. Pearson responded.

Police said Mr. Criswell had attended a firemen's banquet at Frederick last night in company with Irving W. Johnson of Takoma Park, chairman of publicity of the Maryland State Firemen's Association, and Karl Young, president of the Mount Rainier Fire Department. According to the two men, Mr. Criswell complained of feeling badly before they left Frederick.

Mr. Young told Officer Pearson that Mr. Criswell had arranged to start a class in fire prevention at the Mount Rainier High School tonight.

Besides his widow, Mr. Criswell is survived by a son, Robert B. Criswell, Jr., and two daughters, Ann Elizabeth and Jean.

Mr. Criswell had been at the University of Maryland for more than a year, coming to that institution from West Virginia where he was engaged in fire extension work, according to university officials. His work consisted largely of organizing and teaching classes in fire prevention throughout the State.

Nations Fail To Greet Hitler On New Year

By the Associated Press.

BERLIN, Jan. 3.—Only two countries in the Western Hemisphere—Mexico and Guatemala—were included in the German chancellery's published list of nations whose chief executives exchanged telegraphic New Year felicitations with Chancellor Hitler.

Somewhat surprising is the absence of a message from the Emperor of Japan. Moreover, President Leblum of France, despite the recent French-German accord, appears not to have exchanged messages with Hitler, while King George VI of Great Britain did.

President Hacha sent the greetings of the Czechoslovak people.

Italians in Tunis Demand Larger Share in Rule

Notice Timed to Coincide With Triumphal Entry of Daladier

By the Associated Press.

TUNIS, Tunisia, Jan. 3.—Revived Italian demands for larger share in the rule of Tunisia coincided today with French Premier Daladier's triumphal entry into this city and his warning that France was ready to fight if necessary to keep the tricolor flying over her Tunisian protectorate.

At the moment Premier Daladier was being welcomed to Tunis with martial pomp, local Italian Fascist leaders circulated a note demanding equal rights for Italian nationals under Tunisian rule.

The notice came shortly after Premier Daladier told Bey Sidi Ahmed, Tunisia's ruler, that the French empire's military might would be used to maintain the present status of the country.

Gives Two Solutions.

The Fascist notice declared one of two solutions was possible for Italian claims in Tunisia now that Mussolini's government has denounced the 1935 Franco-Italian accord.

Either the 1896 convention giving Italians equal rights in Tunisia with an opportunity to share in the government must be maintained, the notice said, "without preceding violation by France," or if the two nations fail to reach an understanding (See DALADIER, Page A-4.)

Maryland U. Instructor Found Dead in Garage

Body Found Slumped Against Door, Motor Of Car Running

Robert B. Criswell, 48, instructor in fire service extension of the University of Maryland, was found dead at 7 a.m. today in the garage of his home, at 16 Grove street, Hyattsville, Md. Police said the motor of his car was still running.

Justice of the Peace Fred C. Lutz of Riverside issued a certificate of death from a heart attack, "possibly superinduced by monoxide gas fumes," after an examination by Dr. W. E. Mallin of Riverside.

Dr. Mallin and Judge Lutz expressed the belief that Mr. Criswell had been overheard by a heart attack as he walked from his car and fell against a basement door, striking his head.

The body was discovered by the professor's wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Criswell, who went to the garage when she heard the motor running. She found her husband slumped against the door. She called the county police and Officer Richard A. Pearson responded.

Police said Mr. Criswell had attended a firemen's banquet at Frederick last night in company with Irving W. Johnson of Takoma Park, chairman of publicity of the Maryland State Firemen's Association, and Karl Young, president of the Mount Rainier Fire Department. According to the two men, Mr. Criswell complained of feeling badly before they left Frederick.

Mr. Young told Officer Pearson that Mr. Criswell had arranged to start a class in fire prevention at the Mount Rainier High School tonight.

Besides his widow, Mr. Criswell is survived by a son, Robert B. Criswell, Jr., and two daughters, Ann Elizabeth and Jean.

Mr. Criswell had been at the University of Maryland for more than a year, coming to that institution from West Virginia where he was engaged in fire extension work, according to university officials. His work consisted largely of organizing and teaching classes in fire prevention throughout the State.

Officials Study Prosecution of Relief Frauds

List of 100 Cases Is Reportedly Made By Burdette Lewis

BACKGROUND—

Belief of members of Congress that District public relief "load" was too heavy resulted in appropriation of \$20,000 by last Congress to investigate entire relief setup. First two sections of report on survey, submitted to Congress yesterday and Sunday by Burdette G. Lewis, the investigator, charged fraud and "chisel" in District relief.

District officials, relief investigators and members of the United States District Attorney's office today considered "possibilities" of prosecution of relief clients who allegedly have obtained assistance funds through misrepresentation, but uncertainty prevailed as to what would be done.

There were reports that Burdette G. Lewis had given a list of 100 or more cases showing evidence of fraud in a section of his report which is to be released later in the week. The relief investigator said today there were more than 100 cases but that this list were not all "fraud" cases, but involved other forms of irregularities.

United States Attorney David A. Pine announced that a number of cases had been filed with his office during the last year. District agents, but to his recollection none of them was found of a character to warrant prosecution. Welfare Director Elwood V. Street estimated the number of cases presented to Mr. Pine totaled between 40 and 50.

Commissioners Melvin C. Hazen and David C. Coe, Jr., consulted today with Corporation Counsel Elwood H. Seal and Auditor Daniel J. Donovan and decided to withhold final action on any phase of the investigation report until careful study could be given to its details.

However, the committee today adopted an opinion by Mr. Seal, which had been requested by Mr. Street, which would leave to the District attorney's office decision as to who should sign information in any cases that might be found to merit prosecution.

This decision ends an uncertainty, so far as it applies to the judgment of the municipal government, as to who was responsible for starting prosecution—a difficulty under which the welfare and relief officials have been laboring for some weeks.

Former Commissioner George E. Allen, who as head of the District W. P. A. and its predecessor, the Civil Works Administration of the District, and as the Commissioner in charge of welfare and relief, took cognizance of the Lewis investigation report today to state: "In the hysteria of accusation, if indeed there be 5 per cent of bad relief cases, let's not forget the other 95 per cent."

Will Prepare Summary.

Mr. Pine said he recalled another case in which a widow with eight children was accused of having concealed from the case worker the fact that she had a small group insurance policy payment which her husband had provided for the family.

"There may be other cases of misrepresentation or fraud, such as these," said Mr. Pine, "but we cannot afford to let such instances, I do not believe, be prosecuted. I think I know what the jury and the judge would do in such cases."

"It is my opinion that such misrepresentation should be stopped at its inception, rather than to attempt prosecution after the fact, which has been brought to light. Of course, whenever a bad case is presented to my office there is no doubt as to what action we would take. We will prosecute."

Welfare Director Street promised that if any specific charges in specific cases they would be promptly investigated. He said he and the welfare board has yet received no official information on any point on the investigation report of Mr. Lewis and his staff.

Says Record Is Good.

Commenting on newspaper reports that Mr. Lewis' report would contain a list of 100 or more cases, the welfare director said that since there were slightly less than 6,000 relief cases of all kinds that the percentage of "fraud" would amount to 1.6 if there were but about 100 "fraud" cases listed.

"I would think this is a pretty good record," he said, "if this is all of the fraud that has been found, in view of the facts that Government relief was developed at extraordinarily fast pace to meet human (See RELIEF, Page A-9.)

Two Sought in \$720 Holdup in Rosslyn

*Arlington County (Va.) police today were looking for two colored men who Sunday morning held up and robbed M. W. Berry, cashier of the Independent Oil Co. in Rosslyn, Va., of \$720.

Mr. Berry told police he was at his desk in the company offices when the two men, one of them armed with a pistol, forced him to turn over the money.



ROBERT B. CRISWELL.

that Mr. Criswell had arranged to start a class in fire prevention at the Mount Rainier High School tonight.

Besides his widow, Mr. Criswell is survived by a son, Robert B. Criswell, Jr., and two daughters, Ann Elizabeth and Jean.

Mr. Criswell had been at the University of Maryland for more than a year, coming to that institution from West Virginia where he was engaged in fire extension work, according to university officials. His work consisted largely of organizing and teaching classes in fire prevention throughout the State.